

**REMARKS**

The claims have been amended to eliminate multiple dependent claims, without prejudice, to reduce the fees. The specification has been amended to include a cross-reference to the parent applications and an Abstract of the invention.

The amended claims are based on the claims submitted with the Article 34 amendments and Response to the Written Opinion filed November 10, 2004 (copy attached).

An inventor's Declaration is attached.

Return of a Notice of Recordation with respect to the attached Assignment is requested.

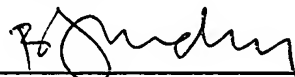
Return of an initialed copy of the attached PTO-1449 is requested.

An early and favorable action on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By: \_\_\_\_\_



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